Historic Preservation Master Plan Process

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What's happening now?

The Draft Historic Preservation Master Plan was recommended for approval by the Historic Resources Commission at their March 11, 2015 meeting and by the Downtown Commission on April 10, 2015. The plan is scheduled for review by the Planning and Zoning Commission on May 6, 2015 and by City Council's Planning and Economic Development Committee on June 16. After that, the plan will be presented to City Council for review and for adoption. It will eventually also be scheduled for review by the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, later in the summer of 2015.

Staff Summary

Asheville and Buncombe County currently have a joint Historic Resources Commission (HRC) and a successful preservation program that has been in place since 1979. The HRC has now embarked on a process to develop a comprehensive historic preservation plan with the intention to guide future program development and decision-making for the community. Although, historic preservation efforts are further supported through the City's adopted comprehensive and downtown master plans, this will be the first community-wide historic preservation plan. This plan will establish a community vision for preservation and include supporting goals, policies, and implementation strategies for the joint jurisdiction.

Read the winning proposal for preparation for the City of Asheville and Buncombe County Historic Preservation Master Plan. Short on time? Take a peek at the presentation.

Project Timeline

DATE	ACTION	STATUS
Spring/Summer 2015	Final review and acceptance by Asheville City Council and Buncombe County Board of Commissioners	
December 2014	Development of Plan Implementation Strategies	Complete
September 18, 2014	Final Draft reviewed by HP Master Plan Advisory Committee	Complete

By August 22, 2014	Revision of preservation plan. Submit final copy of completed plan to city and the HPO.	Complete
By June 30, 2014	Meet with city staff, Steering Committee, and HPO to receive comments on draft (Public Workshop #4, joint meeting of Historic Resource Commission and Planning & Zoning Commission). Develop final document based on comments and distribute to city staff, Steering Committee, and HPO. Meet with city staff, city council, Steering Committee and HPO to receive comments on final document (could be done by phone).	Complete
By June 5, 2014	HPO to return comments on draft preservation plan.	Complete
By May 31, 2014	Submit draft chapters of preservation plan on rolling basis for city staff, Steering Committee, and the HPO review and comment and develop revised draft preservation plan.	Complete
By March 21, 2014	Submit strategies and draft recommendations to city staff, Steering Committee, and a representative from the HPO. Submit interim strategic assessment report to city staff and the HPO. Present report in Steering Committee Meeting #3 and open Public Workshop #3.	Complete
By January 31, 2014	Prepare overview of existing conditions & character areas in Asheville and Buncombe County. Research issues and opportunities for the area Present findings to city staff and the HPO. Hold focus group sessions. Conduct open public workshop #2 with city staff, Steering Committee, the Historic Preservation Commission, representatives from the Historic Preservation Office (HPO), and other stakeholder groups.	Focus group meetings were held the last week of January, 2014 to engage the public in the planning process. Issues and opportunities were identified.
January 30, 2014	Public Workshop at Cathedral of All Souls Parish Hall, 3 Angle Street in Biltmore Village, Asheville	Meeting held January 30, 2014 at All Souls Cathedral.
By December 13, 2013	Conduct open public workshop #1 with city staff, Steering Committee, the Historic Preservation Commission, representatives from the Historic Preservation Office (HPO), and other stakeholder groups.	Meeting held November 21, 2013 at Basilica of St. Lawrence.
By November 22, 2013	Information gathering and background review.	Complete

	Field Survey Coordinate with city staff to prepare for initial project meeting and identify key stakeholders for planning process.	